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QUINE INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY LAW GROUP, P.C.

By:

Deborah Berwick

Appl. No. : 10/826,919
Applicant : Alexander Deiters, et al.
Filed : April 16, 2004
TC/A.U. : 1632
Examiner : Gebreyesus, Kagnew H

Docket No. : 54-000250US
Customer No. : 22798
Client Ref No.: 983.5/NOV0359P
Novartis Ref.: DC/4F-34044/SCR983/JTP

Confirmation No. 1323

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Sir:

In response to the Restriction Requirement mailed December 15, 2007, Applicants elect to prosecute Group XIV (claims 52-59) with traverse. Applicants further elect the species "a derivative of polyethelyne glycol" of claim 54. All claims of group XIV are readable on the elected species. Applicants understand that additional species will be considered if the elected species is found patentable, per 37 C.F.R. § 1.146.

Although essentially moot in the subject case in light of the election noted above, Applicants respectfully traverse the requirement because groups II and III can be combined without undue burden. Applicants respectfully submit that recombining these two groups will ultimately simplify prosecution for both Applicants and the Patent Office by considering these logically related claims in a single divisional application. Applicants respectfully request rejoinder of groups II and III on this basis.

In the event that a teleconference would be of any assistance in examination of the elected claims, please call the undersigned attorney.

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Respectfully submitted,



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Attachments:

- 1) A transmittal sheet;
- 2) A Fee Transmittal Sheet;
- 3) A petition to extend the period of response 1 month; and,
- 4) A receipt indication postcard.

